



The

Check out the newest
addition to the Chronicle,
the political cartoon!
Opinion, Page 4

Synergy volleyball is
hosting a tournament.
Get your team in.
Sports, Page 8

Video game John
Madden NFL 2002,
inspires football fans.
Entertainment, Page 6

Chronicle



Volume 20 Issue 16

Monday, January 14, 2002

SPB discusses upcoming events

JOCELYN GALLEGOS
News Editor

The Student Programming Board, an external committee of the Student Government Association, discussed upcoming events for spring 2002 at a meeting held on Jan. 4 in SFLC 321.

Nick Orange, student body vice president, said the board planned the Student Programming Fair, which will be held on Jan. 14-17, from 10-4 p.m. in the SFLC concourse. This event

will inform students about different organizations, clubs and groups on campus as well as corporations and institutions partnered with PUC, according to Orange.

Chancellor Cohen, Vice Chancellor Singer and Vice Chancellor Bryant will speak during the fair at an open forum on Jan. 17 at 10 a.m., Orange said.

Orange said UPS, an official partner of PUC, is sponsoring Fun Flicks, which will be held Wednesday, Jan. 16 in the SFLC television lounge. He said Fun Flicks will allow students to make their own music videos. He also said popcorn will be served at the fair on Tuesday and Wednesday.

"It's a nice idea for students, but I probably will not be attending because I am in distance learning; it's a long drive to Purdue for me," Bernice Voorheis, a junior majoring in nursing said.

Michael Garza, a junior majoring in finance, said the event would help students become more aware of their options on campus.

Tameka Chihota, secretary of the Center for Career and Leadership Development, presented proposed ideas for PUC's

homecoming at the meeting. She proposed that this year homecoming should have Extreme as its logo.

Chihota said Extreme events would be held Feb. 11-16. She said some of the proposed ideas include an Extreme body contest and an Extreme dress contest, which would be held in the SFLC television lounge.

"I'd like to stop by and see the events because they sound like they'll be fun," Jason Alaimo, a freshman majoring in criminal justice said.

The events planned by the Student Programming Board make it more enjoyable to go to school. "Events like these are especially important for incoming freshmen because they keep them excited about PUC," Garza said.

Chihota added that the board could get funds by asking the Frito-Lay Company to help fund

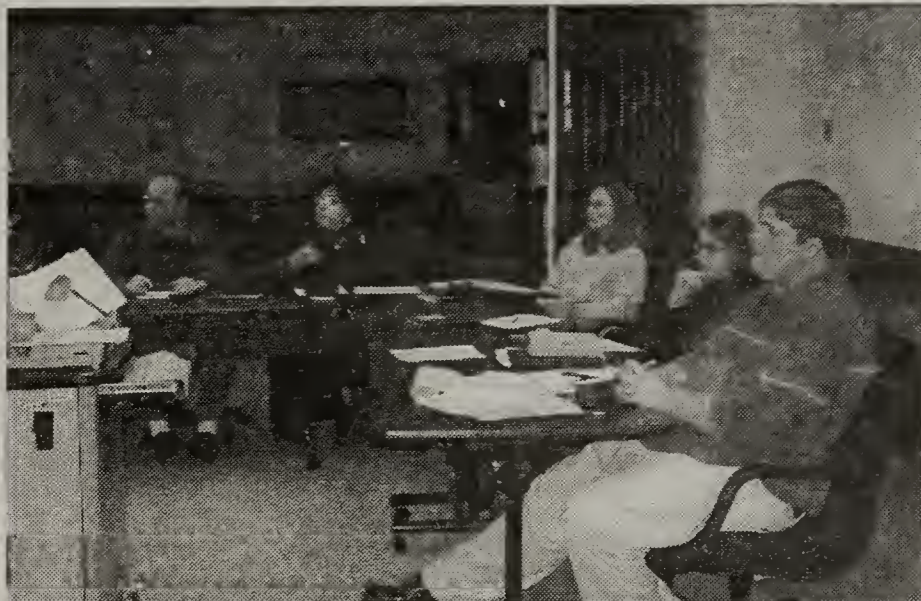


Photo by Lorrell Kilpatrick

(l to r) Rick Riddering, director of the Center for Career and Leadership Development, Leticia Toma, Christine Perry and Nicholas Orange discuss plans for the Programming Fair at the Student Programming Board meeting.

the events because both homecoming and Doritos carry the name Extreme. "We could ask them to help us fund the homecoming events and in return we could have displays of Extreme Doritos at the events," Chihota said.

Orange said the board lacks funds at this moment, but they hope to acquire funds from donations and corporations like UPS.

The board, advised by Richard Riddering, is a cooperative effort

between SGA, the Center for Career and Leadership Development, Fitness Wellness and Sports, the Alumni Board and Administrative Services, according to Nick Orange, chairman of the board.

He said the money the board obtains would be used to fund all of the events.

"We hope to bring an extensive calendar of programming to PUC," Orange said. "Our goal is to build a traditional campus community."

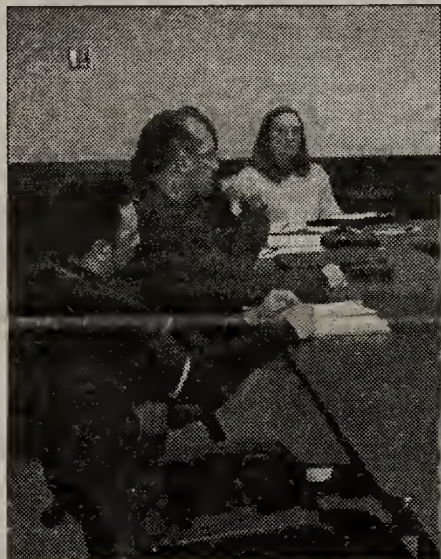


Photo by Lorrell Kilpatrick

SPB members confer about methods to expand the student life at PUC.

Web enrollment to be offered to students

JOSH NYTKO
News Writer

Registering for classes will soon become easier once the option of being able to register online is complete. The option of online enrollment, which was originally planned to be implemented in the fall semester of 2001, is now being revamped.

According to Anne Agosto-Severa, office of the registrar, the Curriculum Advising and Program Planning Organization is working on the automated

degree audit system. She said the system is being developed and perfected to ensure accuracy and proper development.

The automated degree audit system will be based on the course requirements of each individual student in relation to his or her own major, whereas a

bingo sheet contains required courses for each major and is less personal. Agosto-Severa stressed that the intention for the Fall 2001 semester was to develop a student committee that would test the automated degree audit system, not necessarily have it implemented by that time. Agosto-Severa is confident that students can use this tool throughout their

entire career at PUC.

The main goal of the project is to enable students to use

the automated degree audit system to find the courses they need and then enroll on the Web.

"What we want to do is make information available to students on the Web. But first, we have to ensure the accuracy of the information, and then we can go about enabling that information.

We want to do this as carefully and as professionally as possible," Severa said.

"I think it would be a very smart move. It would help students as well as faculty, especially those students who work and have trouble making time to come in and register. Almost every other college offers this, so I don't see why we shouldn't," Sharon Toth, secretary in registration said.

While waiting in a long line to reregister for a class, Kurt Skopelja, an undecided sophomore commented, "I've been here for four hours, and all I need to get is one class. This is brutal. We definitely need Web-registration. Anything is better than this."

Some at PUC think that Web-enrollment may cause problems and confusion. Severa said they are being very cautious. She said they do not want the Web-enrollment service to substitute for the academic advisers, but rather to be used as a helpful tool.

Youth hear words of wisdom

Inspirational workshop to be held on Jan. 19

Earl Caldwell and Victor Woods were members of prominent black families, grandsons of respected ministers and best friends since high school. Caldwell became a lawyer. Woods became a criminal.

Then, Woods turned his life around and co-wrote with Caldwell the book, "A Breed Apart," which focuses on how they chose different paths of life but ended up on the same page.

Caldwell and Woods, who present inspirational programs to at-risk youth as well as motivational and business seminars to adults, will highlight a Family Day workshop, for sixth to 12th graders, participating in Purdue University Calumet's Educational Talent Search program, and their parents, Saturday, Jan. 19 on campus.

Woods received a six and a half year prison term for involvement in a \$40 million credit card scam. He and Caldwell will use their diverse backgrounds to weave an informative and enlightening presentation about their lives.

The workshop, scheduled from 8:30 a.m. to 2 p.m., will be held in Alumni Hall of the SFLC.

More than 250 people are

expected to attend.

Additionally, LaQuanna Sparkman, associate principal at Wentworth Jr. High School in Calumet City, Ill., will discuss how she aspired to her position.

The workshop also will feature numerous concurrent sessions that are designed to educate, motivate and inspire participants to maximize educational opportunities.

Session topics include: Project Respect, Making Smart Decisions in Difficult Situations, diversity, options for older students, 21st Century Scholars Program, stress management, Am 1 College Material, math and science summer programs, Surviving Your Teen Years and teen sexuality.

Educational Talent Search at PUC is a federally-funded TRIO educational opportunity program via the U.S. Department of Education, which assists and provides motivation and encouragement to first generation and low income students from the greater Calumet Region to complete high school or equivalent and matriculate to post-secondary institutions.

Other information can be obtained by contacting the Educational Talent Search office at (219) 989-2460. The toll free number is 1-800-HI-PURDUE, Ext. 2460.

ADMINISTRATIVE UPDATE

Whether to cancel classes, close campus due to extreme winter weather...

With a new semester underway and many new students enrolled, we're spending this space to announce how the campus community can learn of administrative decisions to suspend classes and/or temporarily close campus due to extreme weather or other emergency reasons.

Any decision to do so will be made by the Chancellor, in consultation with the Vice Chancellor for Administrative Services.

That decision will be communicated in the following manner:

1 PRIOR TO THE START OF THE CAMPUS DAY...
to the news media by 6 a.m.

PRIOR TO THE START OF EVENING CLASSES...
to the news media by 3 p.m.

2 EITHER of the following announcements will be made RE: the status of operations at Purdue Calumet that day for ASAP broadcast to local Northwest Indiana radio/television stations and participating radio/TV stations of the Chicago Emergency Closing Center system as indicated below:

CLASSES ARE CANCELED

(This means that all classes scheduled to meet that particular day at on- and off-campus sites are canceled, but university offices, departments and services remain open.)

or

THE UNIVERSITY IS CLOSED

(This means that NO on- and off-campus functions, services, programs and activities will take place that day. The campus will be considered closed to all people except those assisting in emergency/urgent operations.)

3 The announcement will be communicated for broadcast on these radio stations...

- * Hammond station WJOB (1230-am)
- * Northwest Indiana station WZVN (107.1-fm)
- * Northwest Indiana station WXRJ (103.9-fm)
- * Gary station WLTH (1370-am)
- * Valparaiso station WAKE (1500-am)
- * Valparaiso station WLJE (105.5-fm)
- * Michigan City station WIMS (1420-am)
- * Michigan City station WEFM (95.9-fm)
- * LaPorte station WLOI (1540-am)
- * Chicago stations: WGN (720-am), WBBM (780-am)

and these local television stations...

- * Chicago-based CBS-TV/Channel 2
- * Chicago-based NBC-TV/Channel 5
- * Chicago-based ABC-TV/Channel 7
- * Chicago-based WGN-TV/Channel 9 (Morning News)
- * Chicago-based Fox-TV/Channel 32
- * Chicago-based CLTV News
- * NW Indiana-based PBS WYIN-TV/Channel 56

4 Additionally, the voice mail greeting of the campus Switchboard (219/989-2993) and Information Center (219/989-2400) or (800/HI-PURDUE, ext. 2993 or 2400) will convey the message.

5 Emergency closing information relating to schools and businesses throughout the Chicagoland area also can be obtained by phoning 1-900/407-SNOW from a touch-tone phone.
NOTE: there is a 95 cents-per-minute charge.

6 Also, a scrolling message will be carried on the home (initial) page of the Purdue Calumet Web site at:
www.calumet.purdue.edu

(During finals week of Fall 2000, our university Web site proved to be an effective vehicle, not only for announcing campus and off-site closure information, but also for apprising the campus community of plans to REMAIN open on a given day or evening. That's important, given that radio and TV stations report only closure information.)

7 Also, campus closing information can be accessed at the Chicago Emergency Closing Center Web site at www.EmergencyClosings.com.

8 If you are on campus when a decision is made to suspend classes or close the campus, it will be announced:

- * via the campus' emergency notification system, a voice-activated speaker system that can be heard inside and within reasonable range outside of each campus building,
- * on our outdoor, electronic message board on the south side of the Student Faculty Library Center,
- * on electronic message boards inside buildings, and,
- * via announcements placed on building doors (when deemed appropriate).

If no such announcement is made per above, assume normal campus operations remain in effect.

* * * * *

Resumption of campus operations

When a decision is made to resume campus operations, it will be communicated via:

- * the voice mail greeting of the campus Switchboard and Information Center (see phone numbers above), and
- * Purdue Calumet's Web site (home page): www.calumet.purdue.edu

PLEASE NOTE: Typically, radio and TV stations do not announce resumption of operations, so refer to the Purdue Calumet web site for campus status updates.

What's goin' on?

A look around campus

Student patrol officers needed

Student patrol officers needed for spring semester 2002. Interested students must be enrolled in at least six credit hours. Officers will be paid \$6.50 per hour and work 20 hours per week. Officers' schedules will be adjusted around their class schedule. For more information contact Sgt. N. Zwier, PUC police, at (219) 989-2222 after 3 p.m., Monday-Thursday.

Homecoming king and queen contest

Homecoming 2002 king and queen contest accepting nominations. Each recognized active PUC student organization can nominate one king and queen candidate. Any student with a petition signed by 25 PUC students may nominate himself or herself as a candidate. Candidates must have a minimum GPA of 2.0 on a 4.0 scale, 27 credit hours completed and be registered for the spring semester or have made payment arrangements. For more information contact the Center for Career and Leadership Development at (219) 989-2369.

Writers wanted

If you need a portfolio builder or just like to see your name in the paper, call the Chronicle. The Chronicle is seeking new writers to cover campus news, entertainment and sports for the spring semester. Writing experience is a bonus, but not necessary. We will train. Pay is per story. For more information contact Lorrell at (219) 989-2547.

Chronicle positions open

The Chronicle is currently seeking advertising representatives, page designers, an opinion page editor and photographers. For more information contact Lorrell at (219) 989-2547.

SGA seeks additional senators for Spring semester

The Student Government Association is seeking applicants for the senate. SGA is students' link to the University administration and serves on committees that voice students' opinions when decisions are being made. Students interested in speaking up for other students while participating in an organization where they can meet people and have fun should apply. Senators are required to serve two office hours per week, attend

Sunday afternoon meetings and serve on two committees. Those interested can contact Nick Orange at (219) 989-2886.

Dinner to benefit M.A.D.D. to be held Feb. 9

The proceeds from a dinner sponsored by PUC and IUN Gamma chapters will go to Mothers Against Drunk Driving. The dinner will be Feb. 9 from 7 p.m. to midnight in the Alumnae Hall of the SFLC building. Relatives, friends, students, faculty or other Greek organizations are welcome. This affair is semi-formal. The colors are red and white. Tickets are \$25 for singles and \$40 for couples; they can be purchased from active members, or check or money orders can be sent to Gamma Chapter: PUC & IUN, P.O. Box 2254, Hammond, IN 46323.

Alpha Psi Lambda fraternity is accepting pledges

The Epsilon Chapter, a co-ed Hispanic fraternity is accepting pledges. Those interested must be enrolled at least half-time, be in good academic standing, complete the pledge application process, and cannot be a first semester freshman. For more information, contact the fraternity at apl@axp.calumet.purdue.edu or Helen Pineda, Dean of Pledges at Pinedahm@axp.calumet.purdue.edu.

Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc. celebrates 82nd anniversary

Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc. will celebrate their 82nd anniversary January 14-20. Cake will be served on Founders' Day, Wednesday, January 16 in the SFLC building. All interested ladies are invited to attend an Informational on Sunday, January 20 in Founders' Study in the SFLC building. For information, contact Tameka at 989-2369.

Conference calls for papers

Undergraduate papers will be accepted on various topics for the Tenth Annual Undergraduate Conference April 19-20. The deadline for submission of abstracts is January 18. Abstracts should be no more than 250 words, double-spaced, and should include: Student's name, Name of University, Student's Address, Student's Telephone Number, and Paper Title. Mail abstracts to Professor Clement Stacy, Department of English and Philosophy, Purdue University Calumet, 2200 169th Street, Hammond, IN 46323-2094.

SAY WHAT?

'You may marry the man of your dreams ladies, but 14 years later you're married to a couch that burps.'

-Rosanne Barr
1952-

The Chronicle

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Campus housing a possibility for PUC

SARAH LISON

Assistant News Editor

The opportunity to live on campus may be available to PUC students in the future, depending on a decision by the Senior Leadership Team set for middle to late April. The decision to build campus housing will be based on information provided by a market study concerning the cost of non-campus housing in the region and a student interest assessment expected to be completed by mid-February.

Following approval from Purdue West Lafayette during the Summer 2000 semester, the idea to build housing has been included as one of the components of the strategic plan. According to Rebecca Stankowski, technical services librarian and co-chair of the Strategic Planning Committee, housing has the potential to build a stronger campus community and may carry the university closer to the strategic goals of increasing retention rate and improving student success.

Nick Orange, chairman of the Student Programming Board, said, "For this campus to grow to the next level, having dorms is essential in the long term."

Joyce Hesterman, Student Government Association senator, commented, "If we have housing on campus, it will probably bring



Photo by Deborah Race

This is the location on 173rd st. where the housing will be constructed if the project is approved.

more businesses to the area, such as more shops in the Woodmar shopping center."

The Indiana Commission for Higher Education requires that housing at PUC accommodate only as much as 10 percent of the student body. According to Wes Lukoshus, director of university relations, a structure which will house 400 to 600 students is being considered. Any decisions regarding the size of the units, the number of students per unit and what the requirements to live there may be will depend on the results of the student interest survey and the approval of the project.

Furthermore, bonds will be issued to finance construction, but unlike an instructional facility, housing is required to pay for itself. Thus, the cost to students will mainly be based on the cost

of construction.

Chancellor Howard Cohen stated that should construction be approved, there is a high probability that positions for residence hall assistants will be created. Residence hall assistants are usually juniors or seniors who live in the buildings and work with sophomores and freshmen to work out problems and to organize events in accordance with campus rules and policies.

Lukoshus indicated that the soccer field south of campus is being considered as a possible location. Recently, the Fort Wayne campus approved the construction of a similar project.

"We think we can learn from what they're going through; experience being the best teacher," Lukoshus commented, "We're observing them closely."

Republicans provide alternative

LORRELL D. KILPATRICK
Managing Editor

In the midst of political tensions running high surrounding the current war, people with opposing views are engaging each other in discussions about the present condition of Afghanistan and the United States. Students with more conservative views now have an organization they can join with other like-minded people on campus. The College Republicans, started in November, is an organization where people who share the many facets of republican viewpoints, and those who do not, can openly talk about political issues.

Tom Cavanaugh, chairman of the College Republicans, said that he saw the need for an organization where people with more conservative beliefs could

come together and talk about them.

"I noticed that all the other politically orientated clubs on campus were geared more toward liberal ideas. I just thought it would be nice for students to have an alternative to that."

Molly Dobbs, treasurer of College Republicans, shared that opinion. She said that she did not feel that the other political organizations represented her thoughts and views.

After the terrorist attacks and in the midst of speculation about what our response should be, the College Republicans invited an FBI agent to campus to speak about that situation and others. Richard Davis, an agent from Washington, D.C., addressed a number of people from the student body and faculty about new security measures, defense procedures and anti-ter-

rorist laws.

"Even though the attendance was small, you could see that there is an interest in political issues on campus," said Todd Matuska, vice chairman of the College Republicans.

Cavanaugh said that the group does plan on being active in the Spring 2002 semester. He said that although they have not yet set a regularly scheduled meeting time, they will be letting the student body know about upcoming events and meeting dates in the near future. For more information, contact Cavanaugh at tsc2169@aol.com.

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The PUC Police Report



Thursday, December 6, 2:00 p.m.

A victim reported the driver side rear door of a vehicle had been keyed by an unknown suspect(s) between the hours of 9:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m.

Tuesday, December 11, 1:55 p.m.

A victim tripped and fell over an open desk drawer in Lawshe Hall, causing pain to the left ankle. The victim refused medical treatment.

Wednesday, December 12, 12:50 p.m.

A victim reported leaving a book bag at the drop-area inside the doors of the Bookstore. When the victim returned, the bag was missing.

Thursday, December 13, 11:15 a.m.

Two suspects were selling paintings on campus. Once both suspects were located, they were advised they were unable to sell or solicit anything on campus.

Thursday, December 13, 1:55 p.m.

A victim reported leaving a book bag at the drop-area inside the doors of the Bookstore. When the victim returned, the bag was missing.

Friday, December 14, 10:30 a.m. A reporting person claimed a student at the child care center was being neglected by legal guardians.

Tuesday, December 18, 2:20 p.m. A victim reported that a purse was missing from an office in the Gyte Building between the hours of 11 a.m. and 2 p.m.

Classified

Spring Break 2002!!! Student Express is now hiring sales reps. Cancun features FREE meals and parties @ Fat Tuesdays - MTV Beach Headquarters. Acapulco, Mazatlan, Jamaica, Bahamas, South Padre, Florida. Prices from \$469, with major airlines. 24,000 travelers in 2001. Call (800) 787-3787 for a FREE brochure. www.studentexpress.com.

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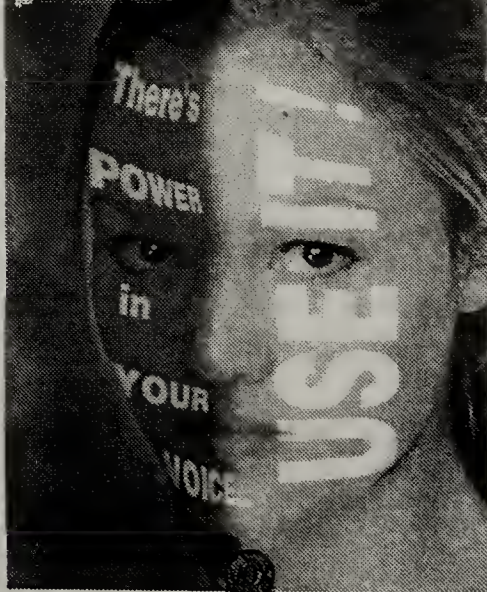
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The Chronicle

Editorial Board
Spring 2002

Kristin M. Harkin, *editor in chief*
Lorrell D. Kilpartick, *managing editor*
Valdemar Garibay, *business manager*

New surface look, improved service?

Over the semester break, all three floors in the SFLC have been remodeled. On the first floor, a new information booth is being built in front of the City Hall doors in the concourse. On the second floor, the library is reconstructing the circulation area. On the third floor, several departments have expanded and switched offices. All these changes are making this old building structure look new and improved.

PUC may begin to look much younger and hide the wrinkles, but how are these changes going to affect students? Are these changes purely cosmetic or does this also signify an improvement of the services offered to students?

The expansion of the Office of Career and Student Leadership Development, for example, will provide an area where student I.D.s can be made. Instead of the past method running students all over campus, from the fitness center to the police station, where a student might get an I.D., now students will have a central location where they can obtain a student I.D. The expansion will also provide a larger area for students to use the resources they have available.

The SFLC information booth is now somewhat hidden behind brochures and candy machines. Students may feel intimidated to approach with questions or concerns, especially when it appears you are entering a jail cell. The new location will be between the south doors, in an open and very visible area. This may encourage students to ask questions and have readily access to school information. It will also be easier for a visitor to locate and ask questions, and give them a great first impression of PUC.

What is the motive for renovating over break? Were the changes appropriate? Would a different change be more beneficial to students? For example, the library has revamped the circulation area. Would this money have been better spent on newer books or keeping the library open later at night? These are just a few examples of other ways the money could have been spent, and there are many more. Although these renovations will provide improvements for students, what was the reasoning behind it and who made the decision?

The departments should express how these changes will affect students, and what changes students may need to make. Some student services are now in different locations and some student services may have also changed their procedures. When are students going to learn about these changes? The students need to have the correct information readily available and not given the run around when searching for something. These changes need to be posted for students to avoid confusion and frustration.

These changes are going to make the building more aesthetically pleasing as well as help the university look more professional, but students need to be informed and asked what they want changed. Maybe students would rather have additional services provided rather than a newer entrance or booth.

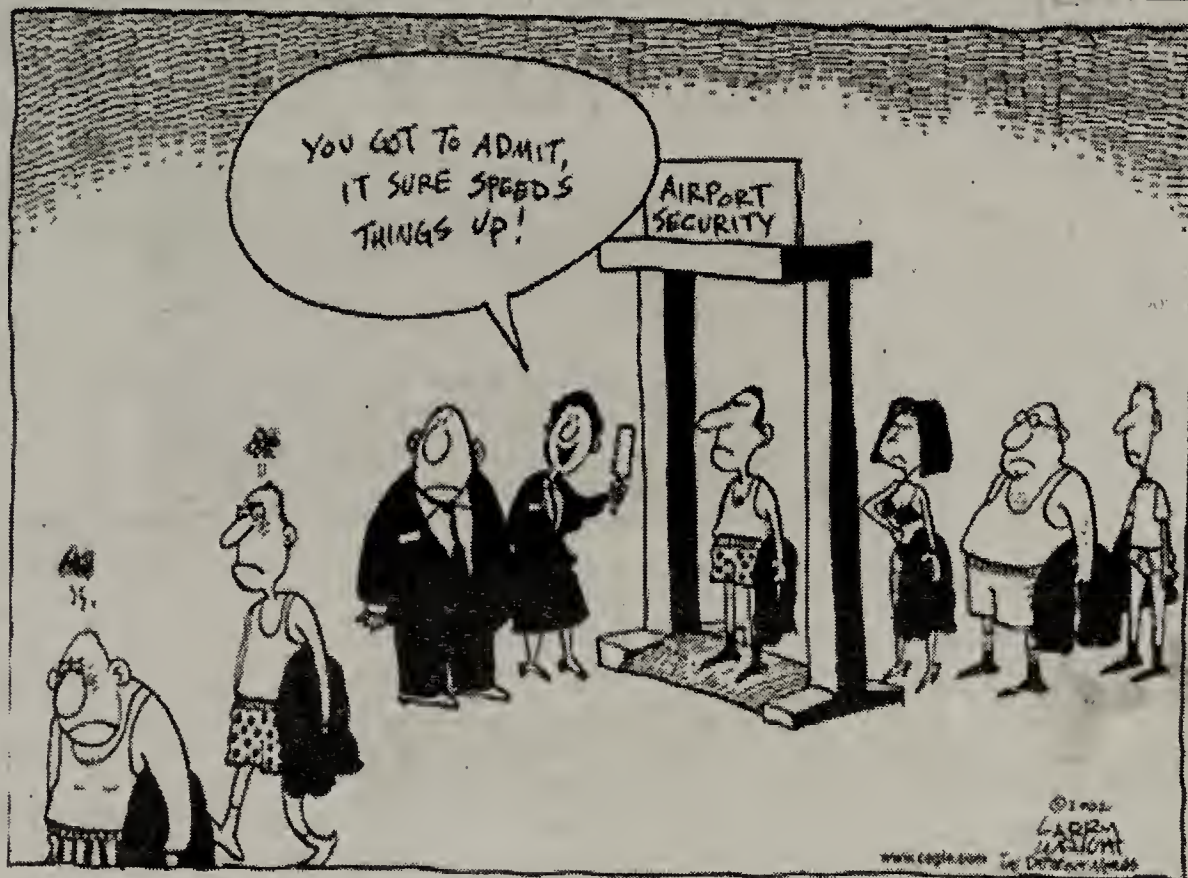
For example, when planning the renovations for the cafeteria, many students, faculty and staff were surveyed and asked for their opinions on what changes and improvements they wanted to see. This may have been helpful when planning these current projects. All of these departments are installed for students; their opinion should be regarded in the decisions as well.

The Chronicle Editorial Policy

The views expressed in the commentaries and Letters to the Editor do not necessarily reflect the views of *The Chronicle* or Purdue University Calumet. *The Chronicle* is not an official publication of Purdue University Calumet.

The Chronicle welcomes reader input. Letters and commentaries must include the author's name, class standing or other affiliation and a telephone number for verification.

All materials submitted to *The Chronicle* become the property of *The Chronicle*. All material must be saved on a 3.5" DOS format disk. *The Chronicle* reserves the right to edit for clarity, accuracy, space and news style. Copy deadline is noon the Monday before publication.



Planning ahead is a key element for undergraduate success



As I begin the last semester of my undergraduate career, I find myself caught in the dilemma of deciding what to do after I sprint across the stage of the Star Plaza. The choices, for me and many others, range from continuing my education through graduate studies (either degree or non-degree seeking),

getting that first, more than likely temporary, I'm-fresh-out-of-college-job and getting the job that will start me on my career path.

Some people are in a position where they can work for their parents who own businesses and are getting a degree more as a back up than as a necessity. For those of us who are by no means that lucky, some legwork will be required.

I am currently applying to graduate school. This in itself feels like going through another whole semester in about one week. My advice to anyone who plans on taking this post-graduate route is to, one, plan ahead, and two, plan further ahead! This is especially true if you plan to take the General Requisite Exam. For this test, you must register at least eight days in advance and pay a fee of (presently) \$105. For those of you who took it, this test is the SAT and ACT together, multiplied by about nine. You cannot exactly study for it, but you can prepare for it. There are a bevy of prep materials in the form of books and CD-ROMs that can assist you.

Other steps that need to be taken are acquiring the graduate school applications from the various colleges you plan to apply to. Keep in mind such important factors such as application, department and fellowship/assistantship deadlines. These dates can mean the difference between having your application considered and having it tossed in an out-of-luck pile.

For those of you who are ready to jump into your career, make sure that you attain some sort of job experience before you graduate. That can take the form of either an internship or a paying part time or full time job. What almost all companies are looking for is someone who can do a job well with moderate instruction. Having experience in your field before you enter it can put you a notch above the thousands of others graduating and searching for the same job as you.

If you find yourself needing help finding job openings, the newly developed (and soon to be renovated) Center for Career and Leadership Development has a database where you can search for jobs on campus or in the area. All you need to do is register with the office and provide them with copies of your resume. If you need help compiling a resume, they have you covered on that base as well. One trip to SFLC-349 and the proverbial ball can begin to roll.

The key to post-graduate success is planning. It is that simple. Once you have a plan in place, along with a few backup plans, then you begin on a successful path to the rest of your life.

The People Speak

Question of the Week:
What is the one word that you would like to see disappear in 2002?



Tim Stevenson

sophomore, civil engineering

"Yo, because it was played out."



Angelie Martich

sophomore, marketing

"Laziness, because there is no excuse."



Heather Wolfe

sophomore, nursing

"War, because it is bull."



Jen Tortolano

sophomore, elementary education

"Lay-offs because there are too many."



Paul Chepela

sophomore, undecided

"Bin la' n, because we should not have to talk about him anymore."



Stephanie Krinakis

sophomore, Spanish

"Racism, because it is getting old and should be obsolete."

Fitness seminar provides awareness to students

A fitness seminar, New Year, Another Reason to Exercise, is scheduled at 7 p.m., Wednesday, Jan. 16 in room 122 of Purdue University Calumet's Physical Education Recreation Building.

"Every year after the holiday revelry has subsided, thousands of Americans resolve to start exercising for the first time," John Bobalik, coordinator of PUC's Total Fitness Center and exercise physiologist said. "The seminar will review 10 basic guidelines to consider before attempting to start a new fitness program."

"I think this seminar is a great idea. Every year my fitness routine lapses around the holidays. A seminar like this is a great reminder not to overdo it the first couple of

weeks back," Krista Longtin, graduate student in communication and creative arts said.

The seminar is sponsored by PUC's Total Fitness Center, a comprehensive exercise and workout facility for students, faculty, staff and community members. It is housed in the university's Physical Education Recreation Building, just south of 173rd St., three blocks east of U.S. 41 and one-third mile north of Interstate 80/94.

Though admission is free, advance registration is required due to limited seating. Individuals can register or obtain more information by phoning PUC's Total Fitness Center at (219) 989-2175 or toll free 1-800-HI-PURDUE, Ext. 2175.



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Beautiful movie receives rave reviews

TERRENCE ISBELL
Entertainment Writer

Anyone who is not remotely familiar with Ron Howard's earlier filmography would be surprised to see a film such as "A Beautiful Mind" under his belt. This is the same man who brought us the semi-decent version of Dr. Seuss's "How the Grinch Stole Christmas" and "Edtv." I would tell people yes, he's also the man who brought us "Apollo 13", "Backdraft", and



Russel Crowe brings the life of John Nash to the big screen in "A Beautiful Mind."

"Willow" (ok, maybe Willow is stretching it a tad). His latest venture from the director's chair may possibly be one of his best works yet.

The story, which is based on real life events, focuses on the life and times of John Nash, a genius mathematician who, like all other movie geniuses, has serious mental and social problems at the beginning of his life which must be overcome if he is to succeed in his overall goal, which is, in this case, obtaining the Nobel Prize. Nash is played by Russell "big-budget flick this year, small Oscar contender next year" Crowe and despite my anger at him for winning the Oscar in "Gladiator" last year (what about The Insider?!), he gives a very award-worthy performance in "Mind." Thus, giving Nash a slight nervous feel, yet not turning him into a whiner.

As a grad student at Princeton in 1947, Nash is basically the new kid, extremely introverted and not exactly the most outgoing person on the campus. During his stint at Princeton, he composes a thesis revising the economic theory of Adam Smith which is deemed brilliant by his professors, thus allowing him access to a choice position at MIT where his ability to crack military codes attracts attention

from many admirers, including those who wish to use him for their own agendas.

Right about here is where the picture gets kind of all "Vanilla-Skyish." After being enlisted by a shady CIA agent played by Ed Harris in hopes of having him solve some type of Soviet nuclear conspiracy, Nash starts to notice that enemy agents are hounding him. That may seem more or less like a thriller type scenario. But he goes to a psychiatrist who tells him that it's all in his head. Are the Soviets after him to shut him up? Or is he just paranoid?

Like "Vanilla Sky," these questions are still there toward the movie's end, so you never really get an unambiguous answer. Don't get me wrong, I'm a huge fan of movies that make you think, but after A.I. and Vanilla Sky...I'm tapped for a little while, all right? Nevertheless, Crowe manages to use Nash's fragile personality traits to the best of his acting ability, and makes it believable.

The performances, as convoluted as the story got at times, were all above par. Ed Harris, who like Christopher Walken gets typecast as a villainous type nearly 95% of the time, does a good job as the mysterious agent who needs Nash for his hush-hush security reasons. Jennifer



Ed Harris and Russel Crowe star in Ron Howard's newest release "A Beautiful Mind."

Connelly, who is basically Crowe's only means of support throughout his ordeals, does an excellent job being there for the man she grew up with. (when it comes time for her to play the love interest of Bruce Banner in the Hulk in 2003, she'll have had more than enough practice due to this role.) Crowe is truly the one who proves that his Oscar-potential hasn't dwindled after last year. From his younger

years to the more recent ones when he portrays Nash as an elderly man, he is spot-on in every scene.

With the exception of "is this real or is it a dream" plot toward the middle of the film, "A Beautiful Mind" ranks as one of Ron Howard's better pieces of work. There's already talk of Academy Award buzz, and if it's chosen as a winner, that's fine with me.

EA sports continues Madden tradition

FRANK SPRANKLE
Sports Editor

John Madden has brought his insight and knowledge of football to the broadcast booth for almost two decades. And now in its fourteenth straight season, he returns to an interactive format in "John Madden NFL 2002."

Currently available from EA Sports, his addition to the library of Madden games features new graphics for a more realistic feel. In addition, one-handed catches have improved the passing game, which in the end, could lead to big yardage gains for one's offense.

Anyone has the option of creating a team with their own logo and colors, as all 32 NFL teams make-up the game format, including the new Houston Texans expansion team, with their new stadium, Reliant Field, for they will begin play in the new AFC South division next year.

If anyone needs more of a challenge, a few NFL Europe teams are included with their own stadiums as well, making-up for a good exhibition matches

with NFL teams, or head-to-head competition against other European teams.

You can design your own team, take a favorite to the playoffs, or maybe even create a dynasty. Madden 2002 gives the advantage to any NFL fan and can make everyday seem like game day. Up to four players can take part, for the game can be played on PC, Playstation, Playstation 2, Xbox, and the Nintendo Gamecube.

For anyone with the PC version, one could participate in online play with a number of fantasy leagues forming on the internet and receive constant updates. One unique feature includes greatest games played, in which NFL history could be rewritten. For instance, one great game featured is the 1957 divisional playoff game between Detroit and San Francisco. In that game, the 49ers had a twenty-point lead at halftime, but failed to keep it, as the Lions came from behind and won.

In Madden 2002, the responsibility of the game player is to take control of the game at half-time with San Francisco up 27-7.

Once you successfully defeat the 49ers, another classic game will be provided and the task will remain the same. For some teams, throw back jerseys are included such as the old Denver Broncos orange crush uniforms and the old lighting bolt helmets of the San Diego Chargers.

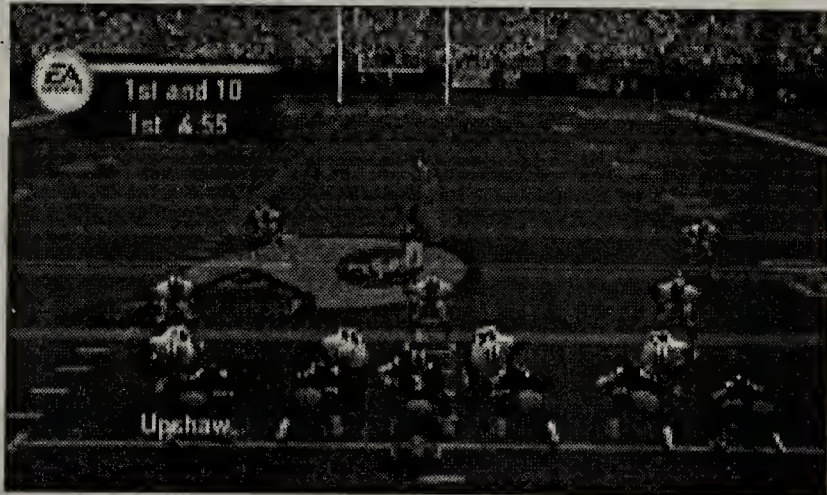
Madden of course provides commentary on the game, along with his play-by-play broadcast partner of the last two decades, Pat Summerall. And just like a usual Sunday afternoon game on Fox, where Madden and Summerall have broadcast NFL games since 1994, NFL studio host James Brown introduces the game being played at the beginning, while CBS's Lesley Visser gives sideline reports at the beginning of the games and the second half.

Playing this Madden game takes practice to master, but it's easy to start

off at the rookie level before advancing to pro, then all-pro and all-Madden levels. If anyone has not played a Madden game before or is looking for an NFL video game for either a Game Cube, Playstation, Xbox, or PC, this is the game to buy.

The first Madden was introduced in 1989 for Apple Computers. Then, a year later EA bought out the rights and the game began to appear on the

Sega Genesis system. Today, the technology has improved with graphics and sound that has enabled anyone to play with rain, snow or wind effects in sunshine or nighttime. Make the big plays in Madden NFL 2002, known available for both Playstation and Playstation 2, PC CD ROM, and the Nintendo Gamecube.



Scene from Madden NFL 2002 for the Playstation 2. This latest version of football fantasy depicts lively and unique play action.

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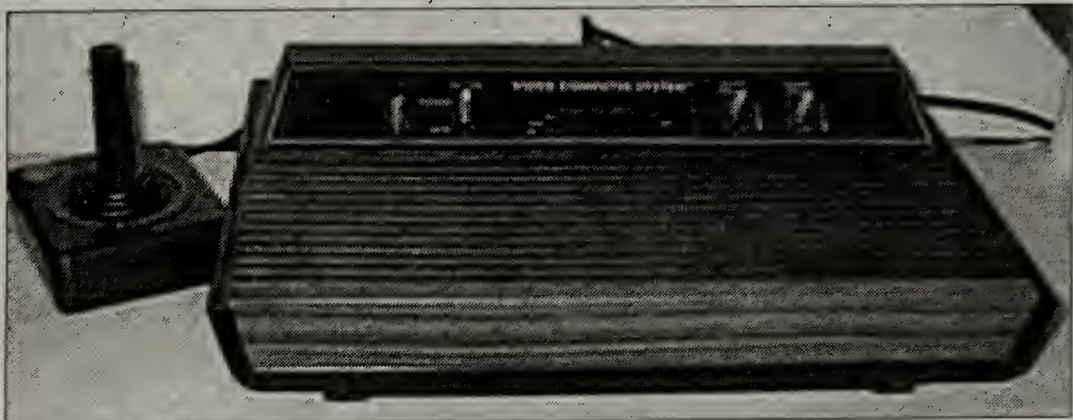
The gaming industry expands its horizons with the latest in consoles and games

JOE JUAREZ
Entertainment Editor

Ever since I got my Playstation 2 for Christmas, I started to show a lot of interest on how the video game revolution has evolved from time to time. I mean thirty-years ago (yes, thirty-years), there was only one video gaming system, The Magnovox Odyssey and one game, Pong. Then came the Atari's, Nintendo's and Sega's. Thirty years after the first video game was introduced, we are now talking about systems like the Microsoft X-Box, Nintendo Gamecube, and Sony Playstation 2. With the birth of these fine game consoles, we should be reminded how the consoles came to be. Also, we should realize that

playing video games has become a popular pastime.

Thinking about systems like the X-Box and Gamecube brings me back to the time when I was watching advertisements like "Now You're Playing With Power" for the original Nintendo Entertainment System or anticipating the first Mortal Combat game for the 16-Bit Sega Genesis system. Nowadays, I am see commercials or advertisements in magazines and newspapers, preaching to the consumer that one system is better than the other. For example, the 1997-1999 competitions between the Sony Playstation 1 and the Nintendo 64, and the much anticipated arrival of the Sega Dreamcast, which unfortunately went under due to a lack of inter-



The first ever Atari 2600 system from 1981 featured gaming favorites such as Pong and Frogger.

est.

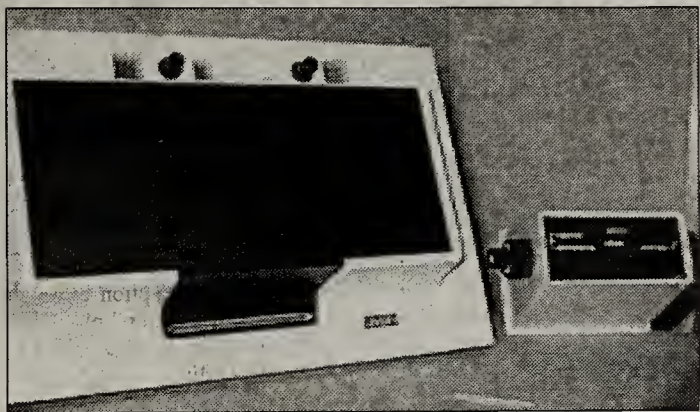
With the lack of interest of the Dreamcast, I recall past systems like the Atari Jaguar, Turbo Graphic 16, and the NEO-GEO. I mean, sure for a time these systems were the most talked about. The Jaguar was the first 64-bit system ever made. While the Turbo Graphic 16 was one of the earliest 16-bit systems developed, and as for the NEO-GEO, well let me just say that I have not seen a home 24-bit system again, except at the arcade of course. And lets not forget about the Panisonic 3DO and Sega Saturn which helped launch the CD revolution in video games. But due to high prices, the consumer could not afford it, thus becoming short-lived.

Now from video game systems, comes their prime mascot. Your Nintendo has the Mario Brothers, Donkey Kong, and Zelda; Sega had its Sonic the Hedgehog; Atari had its PAC-MAN and TG16 had the little cave man Bonk. With PAC-MAN remaining the most popular character and making a sort of comeback on the Playstation 1 a while back, characters such as Donkey Kong, and Mario Brothers have become the prime mainstays for Nintendo, while others like Bonk, and Sonic have sort of become a thing of the past. Now characters like Crash Bandicoot, and the Pokemon character Picachu are the most sought after characters out on the market today.

Where is the video game

industry going to go in the next thirty years? Will we see more Playstation game consoles develop? Will Bill Gates and the rest of Microsoft come up with a predecessor to the X-Box? Will Nintendo develop a predecessor to the Gamecube and Gameboy Advanced?

In my opinion, it is hard to tell what is going to happen between now and the next thirty years when we are saying that the video game revolution has reached its 60th anniversary and all of a sudden, we are telling our grandchildren or great-grandchildren about the video game industry and how it has changed from time to time. But one thing remains for sure, depending on the possible changes to come, I will always play.



From the video game archives, the first ever game console, The Magnavox Odyssey 1.

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THE SPRANKLE CONFINES

This NFL season has been one to "Bear Down" in history



FRANK SPRANKLE
Sports Editor

In the Bears final regular season game against the Jacksonville Jaguars at Soldier Field, maybe everyone could have felt that the NFC Central title belongs to the "Monsters of the Midway," once Keith Traylor returned an interception 67 yards that would eventually lead to a touchdown two plays later, all part of that 33-13 win and set the final record at 13-3.

Some could even describe these heroics as almost similar to Jim McMahon rushing for a touchdown in the 1985 NFC Championship with the snow falling down on Soldier Field. But that was to go to the Super Bowl, this weekend the Bears return to the stage that they were once used to.

While 12 teams go to the playoffs, four get a bye week and a quick advancement pass the wildcard weekend into the divisional playoffs. Following the first game of the season, a loss to the defending Super Bowl champion Baltimore Ravens, many figured it would be a long season, just similar to the last few years of constant bad records and a 5-11 showing in 2000.

Certainly, coming into this season, it was a make or break year for Dick Jauron. No one knew what his fate would be with as Bears head coach, but it would take a team that would be in contention for the playoffs. With a spot in the postseason already clinched, Jauron got his big break when it was announced he would stay on as the coach of the next few years and continue to build in and around on what the Bears have accomplished this year.

Surprisingly, only four Bears will represent the NFC February 10 in Hawaii for the Pro Bowl. Two of the most notable are Brian Urlacher, who enters his second straight game; and offensive tackle James "Big Cat" Williams, who has been in Chicago since the Mike Ditka days; while center Olin Kreutz, and on special teams Larry Whigham round out the selection.

And as all Bears fans look back to the big moments of the season, one will be reminded to weeks seven and eight.

This weekend, everyone will be treated to something special, when the Bears take Soldier Field for the first playoff game since 1994, not to mention the first divisional playoff match since 1990.

Lady Lakers look ahead to conference play

FRANK SPRANKLE
Sports Editor

The first weekend of January could have come as a major turning point for the PUC Lady Lakers. Entering the St. Francis Classic with only three wins under the belt, these next two games would become must wins before heading into CCAC (Chicago Colligate Athletic Conference) play.

After starting-out the season with seven straight losses, all coming back in November, the Lady Lakers have responded, most recently, with three victories in five games, including back-to-back wins in the St. Francis Classic.

A definite turnaround from this time last year, when injuries and disappointment in academics for some, reduced the roster to fewer talented players. Now, a revised team has everyone

healthy, it's a different atmosphere.

"We have started to play better as a team, there are 11 of 13 girls that are binding for starting jobs, two of which have not started," Head Coach Dennis Smith said.

"These last few games have been a stepping stone as we get ready for conference, the girls must be excited to be ready to play."

And a stepping-stone could be described with the progress in the St. Francis Classic. The Lady Lakers outscored both Calumet College and IUN (Indiana University Northwest) 130-83. With these two victories, PUC managed to match their total win total from last season, at five.

"The St. Francis Classic gave us a lot of confidence because the teams that we were playing against were consisted," freshman forward La'Sharon Watson said.

"Being a young team, we

struggled in the beginning, but we have improved and our field goal percentage has gone up."

Watson is one of six freshmen on the Lady Lakers who have stepped-up in helping their team bring spark on the court.

"We are starting to be enthusiastic and play with hear, and we need that to get our confidence up," Lisa Cowper said.

Cowper currently has averaged seven points a game in almost 300 total minutes played.

"The college game has started to get better for me, especially on defense, there is more pressure here," Cowper said.

In fact all but two members of the Lady Lakers have seen 100 plus playing minutes on the court, but going into conference play, look for the better in improving on field goal percentage, which has been held at 36 percent going into January, and trying to cut down on turnovers.

"We did not play like we should have, talent wise, the other teams were not better than we were," sophomore guard Tynisha Fair said about the early stages of the season.

And the confidence level has changed, and right now could not come at a better time.

"I'm excited that we are winning as a team, we are expected to continue to work harder and doing what Coach Smith and our assist coaches expect," senior guard Jackie Carter said.

Some of the key opponents that PUC will face in the conference include Olivet Nazarene, St. Xavier, St. Francis, and IU South Bend, and will be a test to see how well things go the rest of the way.

"What we want to do is double our conference wins that could lead to home court in the playoffs, we have played some tough teams already but have played well against them," Smith said.

Synergy enters its sixth year at PUC

FRANK SPRANKLE
Sports Editor

PUC's athletic facilities have the capability for a number of sports including volleyball. Until two years ago, PUC had such a program, only to see it fold due to a lack of funding. For the last six years, the PER Building has hosted the Synergy volleyball club. This traveling organization has served the needs of improving volleyball skills for young men and women around the greater Chicagoland area and even around the midwest.

Synergy, which was formed in 1992, has expanded over the last decade. Twice a week from the months of November to May, young females that range in the age group of 11-18 meet at PUC. In that time frame the participants involved work on their volleyball abilities and better prepare them toward playing on a program in either high school or eventually in college.

On an average week, this group practices at PUC on an average of Monday and Wednesday nights, unless the Lakers or Lady Lakers play a home game. These successions feature drills and scrimmages, in an effort to prepare for tournaments to which Synergy must travel.

"We love the facility at PUC, the court here is definitely one of the best and the track is nice also," Director of Synergy Brian Erminger said, as his club was preparing for one of their tournaments take took place last weekend in Peoria.

"The tournaments are always a great success, we have about 15 teams and a great turnout."

The group that meets at PUC consist of six teams with 10 players on each squad with its own coach and are pleased with the service that the university provides.

"Everything we have ever needed, they (PUC) has provided it," Dominic Gogliardi said, who serves as one of the coaches.

"What we do here (at Synergy) is improve skills, especially for those who want to go on and play at the college level."

And one advantage that some of the high school members have is more exposure. Of course through Synergy they get help at their high school, but with more matches, it means better preparation for college.

"I love volleyball and I want to play, here it has been a learning experience," Talia Matury'Vacaro said.

Matury'Vacaro, currently a senior at Munster High School, joined Synergy in hopes of playing at the college level.

Besides reaching out to youth, Synergy also provides adult co-ed tournaments on March 16 and April 20 at the PER Building. Each team can have six members and anyone can join for \$110 per team.

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